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Letter dated 14 August 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Azerbaijan to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to inform you that, in spite of the adoption of Security Council resolution 853 (1993) of 29 July 1993, which condemns the seizure of the occupied regions of the Azerbaijani Republic and demands the immediate cessation of all hostilities in the area, and also the message dated 7 August 1993 addressed to you from the President of Armenia about the commitment to carry out the above-mentioned Security Council resolution, Armenia's armed forces recently have considerably stepped up their military operations in the territory of Azerbaijan, particularly against its peaceful population.

On the evening of 13 August, units of the armed forces of Armenia, following a heavy artillery and rocket bombardment, began offensives in the northern part of the district of Agdam. With the support of armoured detachments, Armenian expeditionary units had already seized six populated areas in the Agdam district by 2200 hours local time: Shirvanly, Karakashly, Geytepe, Kosalar, Shishpapakhly and Eivazkhanbeili as well as a world-renowned stud farm situated in this area. The Armenian troops were able to advance along the motorway towards another major town in the Republic - Barda. Intensive artillery bombardment of Azerbaijani positions in this area continued throughout the night.

On the morning of 14 August, Armenian long-range artillery bombarded for a period of 2 and 1/2 hours the peaceful population in the villages situated in the north-eastern part of the Agdam district of Azerbaijan. Some of the inhabitants were killed or wounded, including elderly persons, women and children. In the opinion of military specialists, this bombardment is clearly designed to force all remaining inhabitants of Azerbaijani nationality in the Agdam district to flee and cleanse the district completely of the indigenous population. Further movement of Armenian troops to the north of Agdam is threatening the neighbouring Barda district of Azerbaijan with aggression and creating a great danger for its peaceful population.

In the night and on the morning of 14 August, inhabited areas in the north-western districts of Azerbaijan situated near the border with Armenia were subjected to massive artillery and rocket bombardment from the territory of Armenia, including howitzers, mortars and "Grad" installations. Destruction was caused in the town of Tauz and the villages of Alibeily and Balkygaya.

According to preliminary information, 5 persons were killed, including 2 primary school pupils and a small girl, and 12 persons were wounded, including 5 women.

On the morning of 14 August, Armenian artillery also shelled the town of Fizuli, where there are also casualties.

As a result of the barbaric bombardment of Azerbaijani inhabited areas in the Agdam, Tauz and Akstafa districts, according to preliminary information, 11 persons were killed and 23 wounded on the morning of 14 August alone.

The director of the United Nations interim office in Baku, Mr. M. Al-Said, visited the combat zone in south-western Azerbaijan and witnessed the rocket and artillery bombardment of Fizuli by Armenian armed forces. When he arrived in the Zangelan district of Azerbaijan, the villages of Shanyfly and Kellugyshlag, which are situated near the border with Armenia, were subjected to shelling from artillery and anti-aircraft installations in the territory of the Kafan district of Armenia.

In connection with what has been stated above, I urgently and categorically request you to take the necessary measures to ensure implementation by the Republic of Armenia of the provisions of Security Council resolution 853 (1993). In this regard, I should also request that consideration should be given to the possibility of applying sanctions against the aggressor - the Republic of Armenia, as is provided for under Articles 41 and 42 of the Charter of the United Nations, which include complete or partial interruption of economic relations and of rail, sea, air, postal, telegraphic, radio and other means of communication, and the severance of diplomatic relations.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Hassan A. HASSANOV
Ambassador
Permanent Representative